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HISTORY

OF

Industry, Maine.

FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT IN 1791.

**By William Allen.**

*SECOND EDITION,*

**Improved and Enlarged,**

1869.

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SKOWHEGAN,  
SMITH & EMERY, PRINTERS,  
1869.





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The town was incorporated on the 20th of June 1803, and contained but about thirteen thousand acres, consisting of what was called the remnant of the Plymouth Patent west of Starks, not exceeding nine thousand acres and the tract called the mile and a half strip or Lowell's tract about four thousand acres. Additions were made from time to time from all the adjoining towns; First from New Sharon in 1813, by one large lot from the north corner of that town including the village at Allen's mills and part of the pond; then in 1815, that part of New Vinyard called the gore, near two thousand acres. In 1822, one lot containing about four hundred acres was taken from Starks; in 1823 two lots were taken from Anson containing three hundred and twenty acres: In 1844 seven thousand acres were set off from New Vinyard and annexed to this town. The tide then turned and in 1850 three farms on the west part of the gore were set off and annexed to Farmington: and in 1852 about fifteen hundred acres were set off from the south point of the town and annexed to New Sharon.

Thus eight separate acts of the Legislature have been passed to fix the boundaries of the town as in 1868.

### LAND-TITLES.

The title to the soil and free hold of that part called the Plymouth Patent, was derived originally from a grant made by King James in 1629 to William Bradford and others of the Plymouth Council in England. The original grant is referred to as follows, to wit;

To all to whom these presents shall come, GREETING." "Whereas his late Majesty King James the first, for the advancement of a Colony and Plantation in New England in America by his Highness' Letters Patent under the great seal of England, bearing date at Westminnister, the third day of November in the eighteenth year of his Highness' reign of England &c., did grant unto the right Honorable *Lodowick*, late Lord Duke of *Lenox*, *George*, late Marquis of *Buckingham*, *James*, Marquis of *Hamilton*, *Thomas*, Earl of *Arundle*, *Robert*, Earl of *Warwick*, Sir, *Ferdinando Georges Vint*, and divers others whose names are expressed in the said letters patent and their successors, that they should be one body politic and corporate, perpetually, consisting of forty persons, that they should have perpetual succession and one common seal to serve for the said body; and that they and their successors should be incorporated, called and known by the name of the Council established at *Plymouth* in the county of *Devon*, for the planting, ruling, ordering and governing *New England* in *America*. And further did also, grant unto the





said President and Council, and their successors forever, under the restorations in the said Letters Patent expressed: all that part and portion of the said country called New England in America, situate, lying and being in breadth from from forty degrees of northerly latitude from the equinoctial line to forty eight degrees of the said northerly latitude inclusively, and in length of and in all the breadth aforesaid, throughout the Main lands from sea to sea, together, also with all the firm lands, soils, grounds, creeks, inlets, havens, ports, seas, rivers, islands, waters, fishings, mines, minerals, precious stones, quarries, and all and singular the commodities and jurisdictions, both within the said tract of land lying upon the main, as also within the said Islands adjoining.

To have, hold, possess and enjoy the same unto the said Council and their successors and assigns forever, &c. That said Council of Plymouth conveyed a tract of territory fifteen miles wide on each side of Kennebec river (being part of their grant) to Antipas Boyd, Thomas Brattle, Edward Tyug, and John Winslow in 1561, four hundred pounds (*about four cents and three mills an acre*) who formed a company by the name of *The Proprietors of the Kennebec Purchase from the late Colony of New Plymouth*; and this company took possession of territory on the Kennebec thirty miles square exercised acts of ownership over large portions of it; gave away some portion to settlers to encourage settlements and conveyed away portions to individual members of the company and to settlers from time to time obtained a grant from Massachusetts of a strip one mile and a half wide along their northern boundary thirty miles long, equal to one and one quarter of a township and of one township called Plymouth six miles square, north of Moose Head Lake to compensate them for lands given to settlers. In the winter of 1816 they advertised and sold the remnants of their lands at public auction in Boston and voted to dissolve their company. The settlers on the Patent in Industry in various ways acquired their title from the last named Proprietors all being compelled to pay a high price.

That part of the strip, so-called, which is within the limits of this town, on a partition ordered by the S. J. Court, fell to Francis C. Lowell, one of the Proprietors; and all the settlers on this portion of the town derived their title from Mr. Lowell, who traced his title to the grant from Massachusetts.

Persons who had no property were induced to settle on the Patent, for the reason that no agent of the Proprietors attempted to prevent them and because at the time of the first settlement in this town the title of the proprietors had not been fully established and





many thought they might gain a title by possession. The title to the strip was considered good and Capt. Peter West in 1803, an early settler, obtained from Mr. Lowell a deed of his mill lot by purchase, being the first settler in Industry who obtained a title to the land. The settlers on the strip then made an effort to purchase all Mr. Lowell's right, chose a committee of three, Capt. West, Daniel Luce and Sprowell Norton, who contracted with Mr. Lowell for the whole of his tract at \$1,37 1-2 per acre. Capt. West had paid or contracted to pay a dollar an acre for the mill lot 200 acres. The committee expected to obtain \$1.50 per acre of the settlers for selected lots which they imagined would pay for the whole tract so that they would get the poor lots for nothing or as a compensation for their services. They were disappointed in their expectations.— It was not in the power of one of the settlers to raise the money when it became due to Mr. Lowell; but by the aid of some friend, and the forbearance of Mr. Lowell, four or five obtained deeds of a lot or half a lot; independent of the contract with the committee. After in vain attempting to enforce the contract against the committee, Mr. Lowell obtained what he could, and then let them off and sold for the most he could get: from seventy five cents to a dollar and fifty cents, and in the course of twenty years his title was extinguished. In some cases with cost to himself as well as cost to the settlers, Capt. West was worth more than any other settler in town when he undertook the agency on the committee, and instead of making money by the purchase he was driven into the verge of bankruptcy. Mr. Luce was in moderate circumstances. By the assistance of a brother he obtained a deed of his lot and Mr. Norton was a young man without property and to avoid trouble and cost, left the country.

### PLYMOUTH PATENT OPPOSITION.

Much opposition was made in different places within the limits of the Plymouth Patent in several towns to what was considered the unjust or exorbitant demands of the Proprietors. The settlers in some places disputed the right of the proprietors. In some cases the Proprietors claimed not only the right to the soil but also, claimed a right to the buildings thereon and improvements of the settlers.

Altercations and lawsuits were common among the older settlers in Kennebec and Lincoln counties. Many settlers had served their country faithfully in the war of the Revolution and were turned off without compensation and from necessity took possession of wild land wherever they could find a lot unoccupied and in a state of nature; as they were permitted and invited to do, on land of the State, some of the Proprietors of the Plymouth claim were Englishmen, and some were  *Tories* who fled from the country during the war, and in a moral and equitable sense had forfeited their estates; and although the S. J. Court had inclined to establish their title; the decisions and judgment of the Court were submitted to with reluctance. They produced much excitement and some outrages. These



proceedings at length became so general that the Legislature deemed it prudent to interfere and passed a Resolve authorizing the appointment of Commissioners for quieting each settler on lands of the Proprietors of the Kennebec Purchase in his possession and title to one hundred acres laid out so as to be least injurious to adjoining lands and so as to include his improvements at such prices as they should offer. *See page 10.*

### COMMISSIONERS.

Hon. Peleg Coffin, State Treasurer (a descendant of Sir Thomas Coffin, the original Proprietor of the Island of Nantucket, whose descendants down to the time of the Revolution exacted quit rents of all purchasers of real estate out of the family line; of a hundred pounds of beef or pork or other equivalent annually with high aristocratic notions) was appointed chairman. Hon. Elijah Bridgman, a Justice of the C. C. Pleas and Col. Thomas Dwight of Northampton associates, all being of the old school puritans of strict unbending integrity, of the patrician grade, with inflexible opinions as to the rights of free holders; with no sympathy for trespassers or *squatters* as the settlers were called.

The selection of these Commissioners was very unfortunate for the settlers. They had no personal knowledge of the soil they were to appraise, and had no conception of the hardships and privation of the settlers by whose hard labor not only the lands they occupied, but all in the vicinity had been made available and accessible by improvements and roads; nor of the impossibility of raising money from the produce of the soil or from their labor to pay the price demanded by the Proprietors.

They were required to repair to Maine and examine the territory, hear the parties and to state the terms and price to be paid by each settler who had been in possession of the land during one year or more.

The Commissioners came to Augusta in October 1802. and without seeing a single lot to be by them appraised, as appraisers on execution are required to do;—they gave notice to all persons interested to meet them at that place to submit their cases to be heard. But a very few in this town could procure funds to defray the expense of a journey to Augusta, and twenty settlers were able to raise funds in money and grain to pay an agent's expenses to go for them, and Capt. William Allen went as their agent. One settler handed him one silver dollar which was all the money he got from them to defray expenses. He submitted their cases in due form. As some



question was raised about my right to be heard, I attended personally, found a large crowd about the door at Thomas' Tavern at Augusta, and after waiting some time I was admitted without the aid of counsel or witness. I was met by C. Vaughan, Esq., the Agent of the Proprietors (who was assisted by Hon. James Bridge, an eminent Counsellor, and Ruel Williams, a young lawyer, with witnesses to testify for the Proprietors) with an objection as to my age and having no family. I satisfied them that I was of age; they still objected that I had not been in possession and of age one year at the time of the passage of the Resolve in the case; and after consuming about all the time that could be allowed to any one, which was limited to half an hour, the Commissioners decided to take cognizance of my case; and I retired relying on the honor of the Commissioners to do me justice, urging them to affix no higher price than was paid for lands in the adjoining towns purchased of the State; at from fifty cents to a dollar: where the land was of a better quality than mine. In Farmington a much better town, the State affixed the price at five dollars for one hundred acres to the first twenty settlers: I was one of the first twenty on this tract.

We were grievously disappointed with the appraisal, which was from one hundred and twenty five dollars to two hundred and twenty five for a hundred acres and that with back interest and to be paid in Boston in a limited time with interest: and then the agent demanded two dollars more for each deed and payment in specie or Boston bills.

The Commissioners made their appraisal from the appearance of a few fertile spots or gardens on the "beautiful Kennebec," and were faring sumptuously at Thomas' well furnished table. They were not aware of the stubborn nature of the soil in Industry nor of the absolute poverty of the settlers who often had to live on bread alone for days, and sometimes to make a dinner of herbs: I was permitted to see roast beef on their table at Thomas' but was not able to pay for a dinner with them and made my dinner on hard biscuit procured at a store for ONE CENT.

Thirty-one settlers submitted their claims to the Commissioners, all were greatly disappointed with the appraisal and only eleven of this number by the aid of friends were able to make payment according to the appraisal and not more than six from their own resources. Some of these had to sell every animal of stock they had to do it.— Ten others prevailed on friends to advance the money for them and take the deeds for their security and to give them time to purchase





of them or redeem their mortgages : The other ten abandoned their possessions and left the town. An age elapsed before the title of the Proprietors or non-Proprietors was extinguished.

Appraisals if made by a Jury twenty years afterwards would not have exceeded one dollar and twenty-five cents an acre on an average. My lot cost me two hundred and seven dollars and forty-two cents in 1801, this sum with annual interest would amount to more than four times the amount if appraised by a Jury in 1822. I was able by selling my oxen and all my grain and by appropriating my wages for teaching school, to raise the necessary sum within ten dollars and Elijah Fairbanks of Winthrop voluntarily lent me that sum to complete the payment. I then took a receipt of the Treasurer and demanded my deed but it was refused for some time till I paid the two dollars required by the agent and took a deed without warranty. But to give credit to the Agent, C. Vaughan, Esq., he afterwards put profitable business into my hands, and through his agency I made a purchase of a large tract from which I realized several thousand dollars, net profit in 1811 to 1851.

When the Proprietors of the Kennebec Purchase sold the remnants of their land in Industry at auction, in 1816, some lots were struck off as low as fifteen cents an acre.

### NEW VINEYARD, ANSON AND NEW SHARON.

The title to those parts of these towns which have been annexed to Industry was derived from Massachusetts at a price varying from twenty five to seventy five cents an acre. The settlers on these tracts almost uniformly purchased their lands before removing to them ; generally being able to pay for their land and have some spare funds to pay for stock and to begin life on their new farms.

### THE VINEYARD GORE LINES.

The tract called the gore was purchased of the land agent of Massachusetts in 1702 by Jonathan Knowlton, Ebenezer Norton Esq. of Farmington ; Cornilius Norton of Martha's Vineyard, each taking one quarter and by Abner Norton and Daniel Collins, one eighth each ; During the winter following the parties procured a surveyor and proceeded to divide. They found it to be 560 rods in length and 480 rods wide, they explored it and run a line across from North to South, dividing into two equal parts and then, although the land on the southerly side was no better than that on the northerly side, as the south side was nearest to the settlement at Sandy river, they all agreed to make the north sections larger than the others and that the dividing line should be run east and west from a beach tree two rods





south of the center. Esq. Eben Norton making and urging the proposition and all on the spot agreed to draw lots for each quarter. Mr. Knowlton and C. Norton, drew the two north sections, E. Norton the S. W. section and Collins and A. Norton, the south east section, all were satisfied but the one who designated the starting point who complained that *Knowlton and C. Norton, had got too much*; their lots being four rods wider than the other two, that he, did not intend that they should be but two rods difference, but as all the others were satisfied the division was confirmed. However to pacify the complainant, they relinquished to him their right to purchase a fragment of good land adjoining the pond.

Mr. Knowlton stopped with us over night the next winter and amused us with his account of the purchase and division of the gore, spotted lines and explorations and mode of proceeding, reasons &c. We enquired of him why he called a square tract of land a gore? as we all had an impression that a gore was quite a different figure from a square. "Oh, he said, we always call any remnant of land between two towns a *gore*, without regard to the shape." He remarked that in exploring a new route through the woods, the practice was always to go along the ridges of the hills as much as possible where the passage was not so much obstructed with under brush and fallen trees, as in the valleys. That the first route of a road from Winthrop to the Sandy river, passed over the highest hills between the two places in a crooked direction from one hill to another, that the route from the river near Esq. Belcher's to the gore in like manner was made by a spotted line from the top of the hill at the back one of the of the river lots along the highest ridge to the center of the gore where the road was bushed out and traveled (till Farmington was incorporated.) There was then no settlement on that route, a distance of more than six miles.

## FIRST SETTLERS.

The first settlement within the limits of what is now the town of Industry, was made on the gore, by Abner Norton and Daniel Collins, in Dec. 1791. The path from the river settlement was bushed out so that they could pass with a horse sled before the snow became deep; and then, they went with snow shoes and carried their corn to mill on hand sleds.

In the fall of 1792 my father settled within two miles of them on a route from the river to the westerly part of the Gore which was bushed out with a branch route to Collins'. Mr. Collins frequently called on us as he passed. He was a good talker and amused the boys with



an account of his adventures by sea and land, as well as in the woods, making sugar, &c. He and Mr. Norton were successful farmers and both had large families, mostly daughters who intermarried in this and other towns and their descendants form a very respectable portion of the community. Mr. Norton had but two sons. The oldest became quite wealthy, and died in Farmington, respected for industry and integrity. One of Mr. Collins' sons, and also a son-in-law, became Methodists preachers and moved away. The parents of both families and most of their children were consistent church members. These parents were treated kindly by their children in their declining years and all lived to a good old age.

Cornelius Norton, Jr. commenced clearing land on the gore soon after Mr. Collins came, but being a single man, he did not make the place his home till the summer of 1794, when he married Margaret Belcher, daughter of S. Belcher, Esq., and commenced house keeping in his log house. His father, Deacon Cornelius Norton, moved his family into a log house on the gore about the same time. He was Deacon of a Baptist church and a magistrate, sustained a good reputation as a peaceable, prudent man, had passed the meridian of life and from the infirmities of age was not able to do much work. He was exemplary and useful in sustaining religion, lived to old age, beloved and respected.

His son C. Norton, Jr. Esq., settled first on the north part of the lot a younger brother Ebenezer lived with his father about eight years then exchanged his situation, and Cornelius took the home place and had the care of his father's business in old age; he became an active member of society, an intelligent, judicious magistrate and town officer, a worthy member of the Congregational Church, and died at the age of seventy-six years, transmitting his estate and reputation to his children. His son, Clifford B. Norton inherits the homestead and has succeeded to the good name, fame and reputation of his father as a town officer and magistrate. He is also County Commissioner.

Ebenezer Norton was a pious, good man, a member of the Baptist Church, respected for industry, integrity and christian character. He died of the cold fever in 1814. The six daughters of Deacon Norton were esteemed among the foremost of the place. The oldest married at Holmes Hole. The others married in Farmington, and adjoining towns and all settled respectably.

John and Ebenezer Oakes, stepsons of Mr. Knowlton, commenced on his quarter of the gore in 1792, built a convenient log house and spent the winter there single men.

Tristram Daggett, who had been a Revolutionary soldier under Washington, endured much suffering and received an honorable discharge as follows, viz. :



"By his Excellency George Washington, Esq., General and Commander-in-Chief of the forces of the United States of America.

"These certify that the bearer hereof, Tristram Daggett, soldier in  
"the Seventh Massachusetts Regiment, having faithfully served the  
"United States and being enlisted for the war only is hereby discharged  
"from the American Army.

"Given at Head Quarters the eighth day of June, 1783.

G. WASHINGTON.

"By his Excellency's command :—J. TRUMBULL, JR.

"Registered in the Books of the Regt.

"The above Tristram Daggett, Soldier, has been honored with a badge  
"of merit for five years faithful service.

J. BROOKS,

Lt. Col. Commanding 7th Mass. Reg."

This document he bequeathed to me and is now in a frame as a picture in my possession.

Mr. Daggett was one of the original purchasers of the township of New Vineyard, purchased by subscribers for single lots and drew his hundred acres in the first range adjoining the Lowell strip east of the New Vineyard mountains, and was the first to commence operations for a settlement in that quarter of the township. In June 1791 he procured a back load of provisions at the settlement at the river, now Farmington, and went to the gore by the path and there got Mr. Collins to pilot him up the mountain a mile to the town line which had then been newly run and plainly marked by spotted trees with the corners of the lots marked and numbered on the line. Thence he proceeded "afoot and alone" with his pack on his back and his axe in his hand noticing the numbers of the lots from No. 13 to his lot No. 6, the corner of which he found in a swamp, but on following the check line a short distance he came to good land, made a temporary camp near a good spring of pure water which issued from the mountain, covered his small camp with spruce bark, prepared a bed on the ground with a coat of hemlock boughs with small twigs in the room of feathers, so that he could crawl into his camp to sleep and be protected from the rain. He commenced cutting down the trees in order to make a farm, and soon made an opening of five or six acres. He often said he never enjoyed himself better in his life than while thus employed; that he slept more comfortably in his rude camp than others could in beds of down who lived in idleness, and quenched his thirst from the spring with a better relish than any epicure ever enjoyed over the choicest wine. None but those who have endured fatigue and thirst in the woods can form an idea of the delicious treat that a spring of clear water in such places affords. No water in open fields where the sun shines upon it bears any comparison to that found in the woods in a spring issuing from a hill. Mr. Daggett built him a log house and moved into it the next year, where he lived three





years and then sold his new farm to Charles Luce and moved to the head of the pond on the Lowell strip now Industry.

Charles Luce, Levi Butler, Asa Merry, Henry Norton and several others commenced settlements in New Vineyard near Mr. Daggett's the same year that he did, and Herbert Boardman, Henry Butler and sons, Joseph Smith and sons, Nathan Daggett, Samuel Daggett, Benjamin Benson and others, the following year.

They cleared a path in which they could pass with a horse sled from Henry Norton's by Charles Luce's to David Merry's and thence through the notch of the mountains to Daniel Luce's (afterwards called the Flint place) and to the settlements on the Gore. This was all the road they had for three years to get out to the older settlements. In 1792 a path was made from the centre of the Gore along the top of the ridge or easterly of it by what is now the Titecomb place to the river and in 1792 another branch was made through the westerly part of the Gore along by the Allen place and intersected the other at the Titecomb place then owned by Peter Norton, Sen. By these routes all the back settlers went to mill during several years, and many had to carry their grists on their shoulders in summer and on hand sled in the winter.

The business of going to mill in this way, ten or twelve miles, was one of the hardest of the tasks of new settlers, I know by experience. When a boy of fourteen I often went to Starling's mill five miles, and once to Wilton, ten miles, with a half bushel of corn on my shoulder.

Tristram Daggett often passed our camp in 1792-3 with a bushel on his shoulder, or two bushels on a hand sled, a common load; Simpson White was noted for carrying the largest loads, and I often saw him with a bushel and a half on his back, which he carried fifteen miles to mill.

Mr. Daggett, with his hand sled, was on one occasion overtaken by a boy on horseback who lived with us coming from mill, and prevailed on the boy to let the horse drag his sled, procured a long wythe, fastened one end to the sled and tied the other end to the horse's tail, took his cane to steer with and hold back going down hill, mounted his sled and was dragged several miles. The owner of the horse scolded them for abusing the horse. Mr. Daggett being a sailor as well as soldier, made his excuse that he was tired and *out of wind*, and thought the horse who had better wind "could take him in tow as well as not." "That he did not mean to abuse the horse." He well an honest well meaning man worked hard as long as he was able to work, made a good farm by the pond, which he sold to David Luce, Sen., settled on a lot near by and then on a small lot near West's Mill. He was severely afflicted with sickness in his family many years. His wife was always feeble. She and two of his children after long sickness, died. He was so fortunate as to be placed on the pension list under the Act of 1818 then under Act





of 1828, and at last under the Act of 1832, which last he received as long as long as he lived. He married the widow of Sprowell Norton, and in his old age moved to the town of Parkman, where he died, aged nearly ninety years. Mr. Daggett's case is stated in detail as a specimen of the hardships of early settlers.

In 1791, Ansel Norton purchased the farm of John Oakes and lived on it till he died in 1810.

In 1795 David Davis became a permanent settler on the west part of the Gore. He sustained a good reputation and was possessed of a good property. His family were much respected as good citizens.

In 1792 Daniel Luce, a peaceable, well disposed man, settled in New Vineyard on a lot adjoining the Gore and in 1796 he and his son-in-law Benjamin Cottle, removed to the Lowell strip. He was a pious man as well as his large family, and all united with the different churches in the place. Three or four joined the Congregational Church, Deacon Cottle, a son-in-law and his wife, and Rowland Luce, son of Daniel, were Baptists and one or two daughters were Methodists.

A new road being cut out from Daniel Collins' to Herbert Boardman's Mr. B. moved his family from the river settlement in Dec. 1795 with his furniture on an ox sled, being the first ox team that passed over this road to the north of Mr. Collins. I, in company with a brother, on our way to James Mantor's, who lived a mile or more beyond Mr. Boardman's place, with a package for the relief of Mr. Mantor, who and one of his daughters were dangerously sick, on the route overtook Esq. Boardman with his team moving at a slow pace, the snow being a foot deep with no track and the road extremely rough. We followed along with him that we might have the benefit of the track. In passing the steep side hill, a wing of the mountain south of Butler's Corner, the rigging by which the load was secured gave way and let off part of it, and two or three barrels went bounding down the hill among the bushes. Esq. B. in his excitement exclaimed, "There they go, Isaac and Josh! Topsey Turvey!" much to our amusement. After some delay, he recovered his stray barrels, readjusted his load with our assistance, and near night arrived at his log house. From that place we found the track broken out, and before dark arrived at Mr. Mantor's and found him in the last stages of the disease which terminated his life in a few days. His daughter Polly died also soon after. He expressed his gratitude for the kindness of his friends and thanked us for bringing him a little wine and a few articles that could not be obtained in the neighborhood. We stayed there that night and returned the next day.

To remunerate my father for some of the articles which he had procured of Capt. West who then lived on the Rolfe place in Farmington, Mr. Mantor's eldest son, Benjamin Mantor, assisted my father in cutting down two acres of trees for Capt. West, on the mill lot the next year. 1796.



Mr. Boardman was the son of the Rev. Andrew Boardman of Chilmark, Martha's Vineyard, was a blacksmith by trade, and during the latter part of his life was a worthy magistrate, a successful farmer and a good citizen. He married a daughter of David Merry of the Vineyard who was esteemed as one of the best of housewives, industrious, intelligent and pious. No one in town was more respected as long as she lived, and her memory is held in kind remembrance. They were worthy members of the Methodist Church. Their house which was well furnished was burnt near the close of their lives with all its contents. They had three sons, the oldest died at the age of twenty-one, unmarried, the second son married Mrs. Hobbs and died young, leaving two children, his widow afterwards married James Davis, now of Starks. Both these sons were esteemed as very promising young men. A third son is living in Farmington, an enterprising and prosperous trader. They had one daughter, Catherine, who married Richard Fassett.

In 1798 Capt. Peter West built a house on the mill lot and moved his family into it. He was an eccentric man, possessed of more than common intellect, a carpenter by trade, married a daughter of Hon. Shubael Cottle, a worthy woman of Tisbury, Martha's Vineyard. He came from the Vineyard to Sandy river in 1791, settled first on the Tobey place which he sold and moved on to the Rolfe farm now Parker's and in 1796 moved to Hallowell, where he built a small vessel which he named Bonaparte, in honor of Napoleon, and thence moved to Industry, where he built mills, ever since called West's Mills. He was a passionate restless man and when excited seemed almost insane. Two of his children, John and Hannah were decidedly insane, also a grand daughter. He had three other sons who were respectable members of society. Two of them, Shubael and William settled at Hallowell.—His youngest son, Peter, inherited the homestead and owned the mills and was a successful trader many years, was killed by a fall from his wagon. Capt. West had four other daughters, one married Israel Butler, one Benjamin Mantor, one Abraham H. Willis and one Henry Mantor, all were esteemed for their good qualities as was also the wife of Peter, who was a sister to Israel Butler, and raised up large families esteemed for their intelligence and talents. The grand sons of Capt. West have always been among the most active business members of the community. One grandson has been County Commissioner and County Treasurer. One has been Town Clerk twenty-six years in succession.—Others in different respectable town offices, Representatives and other places of honor and trust.

Capt. West, among other foibles, believed in witchcraft. When he built his saw mill there was some defect in the machinery and the saw did not run true. He thought the mill saw bewitched, and told me he had no doubt of it. "But he said he drove the old hag off by threatening her with a horse shoe," and marked with chalk the form of a horse shoe on the gate of the saw.





He was continually on the move and failed to acquire a large estate; but was reputed to be worth more than any other man in town when he settled there in 1798, being called worth eight hundred dollars, but lost all by a injudicious contract for wild land made with Francis C. Lowell, and in his last days was reduced to the verge of bankruptcy. He received a small pension which helped to support him in his last years. His wife was a worthy woman, a daughter of Judge Cottle of Tisbury.

In 1795 Samuel Crompton an Englishman, settled on the lot adjoining New Sharon, Thomas Johnson and sons and Zoe Withee near Withee's Corner, 1796 Nath'l Willard and sons at Thompson's Corner, and Joseph Badger also settled near Starks line, and Archelaus Luce on the north side of Bannock Hill. In 1798 he sold to Jonathan Knowlton, Jr. and settled on the Davis lot. In the fall of 1796, Capt. William Allen took possession of three lots near the outlet of the pond, and I cut down the first tree on what is called Allen's hill, in Oct. of that year. The next year we cut eight acres, built a log house and on the last day of April, 1798 moved into it from Farmington, where we lived nearly six years. There was then no house or clearing within two miles in any direction and no road for that distance. Jonathan Bunker from Nantucket, a rope maker, moved in on the road east of Bannock Hill in 1797 where he lived fifteen years and then removed to the far west. He was a member of the Congregational Church and a good citizen. Capt. John Thompson moved from Vienna the same year, and in 1798



James Thompson from Norridgewock, both formerly from New Hampshire, William Ladd and John Stevens from Mount Vernon, James Eveleth from Wiscasset, James Winslow a carpenter and Alvin Hawes from Farmington, Atkins Ellis from Harwick and Benjamin Burgess from Martha's Vineyard in 1799. In 1800 Joseph, Ephraim and Samuel Moody and John Goodrich from Shapleigh, John Marshall & Sons., from Lewiston, and David Maxwell and Benjamin Jewett from Wells. James Winslow from Farmington, was a good citizen, and was worth about \$600 when he came here in 1799.

The first settlers in Industry on the patent were Joseph Taylor and Peter Witham in 1792, on that part set off to New Sharon, also about the same time Nathaniel Chapman who was a Revolutionary soldier, who removed to Kingfield where he was placed on the pension list and died. The ten last named were all very poor; Mr. Marshall was a carpenter and had four sons the most of whom acquired a good standing in society; one was a Colonel of a regiment, and one, namely Alfred, became a Brigadier General and was Representative in Congress and held other offices of honor and trust, they all left the place after a few years.

### ORGANIZATION OF A MILITARY COMPANY.

In the winter of 1799, the number of families in the settlements which now composed a part of the towns of Industry the whole of Mercer and part of Smithfield, a tract of territory near twenty miles in extent, was about forty. Representation was made to headquarters by ardent patriots of adjoining towns, and military officers who wished to extend their jurisdiction, and some of our settlers devoted to rum and idleness, that the number on these plantations was sufficient to form a company in the militia; and thereupon orders were issued for a choice of officers and John Thompson was chosen Captain, Ambrose Arnold of the river settlement, Lieutenant, and Jabez Norton, Jr., Ensign. At a meeting for the choice of these officers, my father proposed the name of Industry for the military territory which was adopted by the company, and when the westerly portion of the territory was incorporated it retained the name.

When the company was called out on the first Tuesday of May 1799 for training, I was designated by Capt. Thompson to distribute the orders. The spring was cold and unusually backward, and the snow was more than two feet deep in the woods and no road in any direct course from one settlement to the other. After spending one day to go to see the Captain personally, it took me a full day to go





from my father's by way of Farmington Village, Farmington Falls, over Cape Cod hill in New Sharon, to Lieutenant Arnold's, a distance of twenty-four miles, and another day to get home. On the fifth of May the snow was so deep as to be impassable where there was no track, but with snow shoes. Some went on snow shoes, I followed the only track to get from home to the place of training near Withee's corner, by going first north to Hinkley's corner, then east to Thompson's corner, and then south to Withee's being four times the distance in a direct line, where there was no path.

When the company met for inspection the whole number was less than forty; ragged, rude and undisciplined, a considerable portion intemperate in their habits and too poor to equip themselves. Not one fourth part were equipped. The visionary project of organizing the company was extremely oppressive to those liable to do duty and the inhabitants at large. The time spent was worse than lost and no benefit was derived from our military trainings. The price of powder was a dollar a pound at Hallowell, and the cost of furnishing powder for town stock and to be used at musters exceeded all our other money taxes for several years to say nothing about the cost of rum. All in these times were in the habit of drinking on public occasions, especially at military trainings, and many of course would drink to excess. Nothing short of an over-ruling providence prevented the then rising generation from becoming drunkards. Notwithstanding the unfavorable circumstances which attended the first settlement in this town, a religious element was in operation in the community and a goodly number of the early settlers became pious. The first military officers were all professors of religion. Capt. Thompson was a zealous local preacher; Lient. Arnold was a member of the Baptist church in good and regular standing and much respected; Ensign Norton was a methodist, esteemed for his prudence, industry and piety.

At the first training Capt. Thompson kneeled down on the snow before his company and made a fervant prayer commending his men to the protection of Almighty God, and entreated for wisdom and discretion in the performance of his duties.

At the first general muster at Farmington, one of the Farmington companies took offense at the posting of the companies in the line, thought the company degraded by being assigned a lower position than they were entitled to; on a concerted signal, mutinied without a word being said and left the field. Capt Thompson being extremely ardent and patriotic in all his movements, immediately tendered his services to the Field Officers to go with his *Falstaff* company and bring back the deserters with force and arms; but more prudent



councils prevailed, and the General and Field Officers after a long parley prevailed on the deserters to come back and take their place. There was so much time spent, however, in adjusting the matter, that the line was not formed and inspected and the men *treated* till the day was nearly spent and all were tired and disorderly.

When all things were arranged for the manœuvres of the day, the word of command was given "to form column on the right." One of the captains being deaf could not hear from a distance, enquired of his orderly sergeant "Look, what did the Col. say?" Look replied "*to the right about face, dismissed.*" The Captain gave the word accordingly and away went his men with a shout. Here then was another case that required skill and explanation to restore order.

At length order was in some measure restored and the rations being all consumed the regiment was dismissed and but little benefit derived; but few left the field any wiser than they came and many were manifestly worse for the days indulgence: which was the result, generally, so long as all were inclined to drink who attended muster for more than thirty years. Even after the temperance reformation had made good improvement in the habits of the community, rum and military musters continued to be inseparably connected, and if reports be true, many of our army officers were a disgrace to our nation by their habits of intoxication which unfitted them for duty.

## STATE AND COUNTY TAXES.

To increase our troubles, a State Tax was laid on the Plantation of Industry in 1802, of \$44, also a county tax to near the same amount. The Sheriff was directed to serve the warrants on some principal inhabitant who was able to pay the amount if he did not cause the tax to be duly assessed. He passed through both parts of the plantation and told me he could not find any such principal inhabitant, and concluded to leave the warrants with me. I had been of age but one year, had no estate except the produce of some burnt land, and a remnant of a few months wages left after purchasing a suit of clothes; for fear of the consequences of neglecting my duty, after due inquiry I procured a warrant from a Justice of the Peace for calling a plantation meeting, and Nahum Baldwin was chosen Clerk and first assessor, and Luther Burr and myself the other assessors; Samuel Hinkley was chosen Treasurer, and a plantation tax was raised to pay for powder for muster and for other expenses.

The meeting was holden at Lieut. Arnold's at the river settlement and all the officers, except myself, were chosen from that settlement. The next year the voters in the back settlement out-numbered the





others and chose all the officers in their section although none in that section were so well qualified to do business as Mr. Baldwin, who was dropped.

On taking the valuation in 1802, no settler had any title to real estate, and Peter Daggett was the only settler in the back settlement who had a house ; all others lived in log cabins ; his house cost him \$300.

At the Plantation meeting on the first Monday in April 1803, the inhabitants for the first time gave in their votes for Governor, all for Caleb Strong, except three, who voted for Gerry, (these voters not knowing the christian name of Mr. Gerry) and the return was made accordingly. The next year our Republicans, as the supporters of Mr. Gerry were called, were seasonably furnished with the Argus which had then been established as a Republican paper, were then, as ever after, prepared to give their votes according to order, and had a leading majority for forty years of about two to one except one year. The other party was for many years known as federalists.— In 1806, Strong had 15, and Sullivan 35 votes.

### INCORPORATION OF THE TOWN.

In the winter of 1803 at, the request of James Thompson, our plantation Clerk, and others, I prepared a petition to the General Court for an act of incorporation of that part of the plantation lying west of Starks in which we ascertained there were more than fifty ratable polls and stated our valuation as 24 to twenty compared with the other part or 6-11 of the whole plantation according to the valuation in 1800. An order of notice was obtained and published, and on the 20th day of June 1803, the town was incorporated and bounded, west by the Vineyard gore, north by New Vineyard, east by Starks and a line running south from S. W. corner of Starks half a mile to New Sharon, south-west by New Sharon and by a line from the north point of New Sharon and running north to the N.E. corner of the Vineyard gore. These lines have all been altered since by seven separate acts of the Legislature. Samuel Prescott Esq. of New Sharon was authorized to call the first town meeting which was holden at the dwelling house of William Allen, in October 1809 when James Thompson was chosen Moderator ; William Allen, Town Clerk ; William Allen, Jr., Capt. Peter West, Daniel Luce, Selectmen, Assessors and Overseers of the Poor ; John Thompson, Town Treasurer.

The law then required all over sixteen years of age to pay a poll tax and a specific sum to be set to each poll, which by the rule of





law put more than half of the tax on the polls, in this town, which bore severely on poor men who had several boys liable to pay a poll tax. No one was qualified to vote unless he paid two thirds as much tax for his estate as was set to his poll. By this rule there were but seven legal voters in town affairs in 1805 in the whole town;—four of whom claiming to be republicans constituted a majority and did all the business and elected all the town officers, from their own party. Complaints being made the rule for assessing taxes was altered by the Legislature, first so that but one third part of the tax should be set to the polls and minors were exempted; afterwards one fifth then one sixth part was to be set to the polls and in no case, not more than one dollar of any money tax was allowed to be set to the polls, and the residue to be set to the estates. And by the constitution and laws of this State, all persons residing in any town three months prior to any election or town-meeting (except paupers and Indians not taxed) are allowed to vote. In 1864 provision was made to set one sixth part of each tax on the polls, but not more than two dollars.

### MILLS, ROADS, &c.,

Henry Norton built a grist mill on a small stream in 1794, he had to carry his provisions and part of his mill irons on his shoulder through the woods and over the mountain nearly six miles. He carried out potatoes for his men to eat from Abner Norton's when they were finishing his mill, following a spotted line over the mountain.—The mill proved to be useless for want of water and for want of suitable gear.

Rufus Davis built mills at the outlet of the pond in 1804, now called Allen's mills, which have done good business, especially after the same passed into the hands of Benjamin and Newman T. Allen. Capt. Thompson built mills near Starks line in 1805 which were an accommodation to the settlers in that vicinity. Capt. West's mills were built in 1798 as has been stated, which have since been rebuilt and have done good business.

A county road was laid out in 1802, from Waterville through the centre of Starks to Withee's corner in Industry, thence by Week's mills to Farmington, and the next year a branch was laid out from Withee's corner by the Allen place and Allen's mills to the Vineyard road in Farmington at Rufus Allen's. Immediately after the first choice of town officers the Selectmen proceeded to lay out the other principal roads, to wit: from the corner of Anson near West's mills to Withee's corner; from Butler's corner to Davis' corner, from



Thompson's corner over Bannock hill to Hinkley's corner, and from Butler's corner to Daulel Collins, and some other short pieces. In 1804 a highway tax of \$800 was raised to open the roads.

### Face of the Country, Soil and Productions.

The territory now comprising the town is hilly and a portion of it mountainous especially the Oregon territory or that part taken from New Vineyard. The native growth on the hills was Rock Maple, Beach, Birch, Ash and Basswood or Linden. In some places the Rock Maple predominated. The soil on the hills is generally fertile and was favorable to first crops on burnt land, but generally very stony. Only a small portion of the town is suitable for tillage. The valleys were covered with a mixture of hard wood, hemlock and spruce. In the swamps there was some cedar and a few pines. One hundred acres on the point which extends into the pond was originally covered with good pine timber which at an early day, prior to the settlement of the town, was destroyed by fire. The soil in the valleys is not so good as on the hills, is very stony with few exceptions.

Where the prevailing growth was hard wood, even where it was so stony that places could scarcely be found for a hoe to enter to plant corn on burnt land, the first crop of corn or wheat was sure to be good. Corn at the rate of twenty-five bushels or more to an acre the first year, and wheat or rye the second year at the rate of twenty bushels and acre and sometimes more, and then when properly seeded down a good crop of clover seed could be obtained the third year, and good crops of hay for several years till the stumps decayed so that the ground could be broken up with a plough. But little profit could be derived from ploughed land as it required a strong team and much labor to make it productive on account of stones. The land when subdued and well seeded down affords the best of pasturage and makes the business of raising sheep more productive than tillage.

Although good crops of corn was raised by the early settlers, they could not get their surplus produce to market without great expense. In order to procure necessary stores for family use, salt and other things they were subject to much fatigue and cost. I will illustrate by a case or two of my own. My father having raised a good crop of corn the first year that he lived in town, prepared a load of forty-five bushels for market to pay for leather for shoes and to procure necessities, having bought one yoke of oxen, he procured another yoke on condition that he would pay at Winthrop, fifteen shillings in grain for the hire of them; got all things in readiness on Saturday





in January 1799 for an early start on Monday morning for a week's jaunt, and I was designated teamster. The boys were called up early and one sent two miles for the hired oxen, and before daylight appeared I started with my load. The roads being rough and the track narrow, my father went with me four miles to Col. Fairbank's near the Titcomb place in Farmington to pry up the sled when it run off the track. We arrived at Col. F's before sunrise, let the oxen rest and eat half an hour, re-laid the load on the sled and squared up and made all secure, I then proceeded alone; the road being better, crossed the river opposite Farmington village and arrived at Lowell's in Chesterville soon after noon, fed my oxen, eat my cold dinner with a tumbler of cider to wash it down; stopped an hour and started again, got to Perry's at sun-set and put up, having driven nineteen miles, bought a pint of milk and ate bread and milk for supper; got a warm breakfast and started again at sun-rise, drove seventeen miles to Winthrop where I discharged ten bushels of corn from my load to pay the tanner for our winter stock of leather, tried to sell my load, but no one would buy, and had to go three miles further to leave another portion of my load for ox hire; on a cross road I was directed wrong, and found myself at the end of a wood road in the dark, could find no suitable place to turn, but with much trouble I got my sled turned by taking my forward oxen with the chain to one corner of the sled and starting the sled off and then starting the oxen on the tongue, then first one yoke then the other a little at a time till I got turned; after half an hour thus spent, I at length got on the right track and having traveled twenty miles, arrived at Farbanks, my place of deposit, stopped over night, and as my team was beat out I accepted an invitation to stop a day to rest. On the fourth day I started early and drove to Hallowell by noon, carried hay and bated my oxen in the street, sold my corn for four shillings, got ten dollars in money and the rest in goods. and started for home without entering any building in the place except the stores, and drove to Carlton's by daylight, eight miles; the next day to Lowell's twenty-two miles, and on the sixth day in the afternoon got home tired and hungry with about four dollars in money after paying expenses, and ten dollars in necessary family stores, salt, &c. the proceeds of my load of corn after paying the tanner.

Not being entirely discouraged with marketing, a year or two afterwards I ventured again with an ox team by way of Vienna, arrived at the Forks on the second day before night, put up my team at Cumming's and went to Augusta on foot to try the market as corn was a drug at Hallowell, but could do no better there, returned to





Cummings' making twenty eight miles travel that day. The next drove into Hallowell sold my corn at sixty cents, two thirds in goods, returned to Mount Vernon at ten o'clock at night, having driven twenty four miles and traveled four miles extra, to recover goods left at the store. On the fourth day drove to Farmington hill and the fifth day home before noon, with little money left after paying expenses but had learned a good lesson and determined not to go to market again that distance, with an ox team. We after that managed to keep our produce at home till called for by settlers.

Poverty however, often compelled new settlers to carry their produce to market as soon as it was harvested without counting the cost, and some were sure to sell themselves short at a low price, and before the next crop came to maturity were compelled to buy at a high price for the support of their families.

Many expedients were resorted to in our early days to raise spending money besides working out by the day. Maple sugar was a staple article and large quantities were made by some families yearly. I made nine hundred pounds one season by my own labor without any assistance. I have carried maple sugar on horseback to Augusta to market. Some made shingles, some baskets and some brooms to sell. The boys found profit several years in digging ginseng at half a dollar a pound, till it was all collected. The main dependence of most of the early settlers during the first year was hiring out by the day to farmers in older places, two to four or six miles distant. A crop of corn was generally raised the second year, then grain, then their new land was seeded down so that they could get hay for a cow. The cows lived in the woods on bowse during the summer, and corn stalks and meadow hay winters. After two or three years, those who were industrious and prudent generally began to emerge from poverty and want and advanced more rapidly for three or four succeeding years while clearing up new land, than afterwards, when they had to break up their new land with the plough, the soil being generally stony and hard to subdue.

All at first had to work hard and fare hard. Many had to live principally on corn bread and potatoes the



first year with no meat except pork, and but little of that.

### Schools.

There were no schools of any note before the incorporation of the town. An old maiden lady was employed occasionally a short time to teach children their letters and to spell out short words. Her school was kept one month in my barn. She did what she could "to teach the young idea how to shoot" but was quite incompetent. I visited her school on one occasion and she had a small class advanced to words of three syllables in the spelling book and when they came to the word "anecdote" she called it a-neck-dote and defined it to be food eaten between meals.

When the first town school was put in operation the master was quite deficient every way. When a boy hesitated at the word "biscuit" the master prompted him rashly, "bee squit, you rascal" But during the second year a portion of the town united with a district in Farmington which extended from the Vineyard gore to the Titcomb place more than four miles. The school was kept in a log school house near where Mosher lives, by Samuel Belcher, a competent teacher, and our boys made good progress. The master boarded with us a part of the time two miles from the school house. When the road was not broken out they had to get breakfast by candle light, in order to be at school in season. The town ever afterwards manifested a commendable interest in the support of schools and the youth of the town have been well taught and a large number of skillful teachers have been raised up who have found employment in some of the best of grammar schools and a respectable number have obtained a College education and become distinguished as Clergymen, Lawyers and Teachers in distant places.

I had no opportunity to attend school but one month after I was twelve years old till I was twenty-two ; but having learned to read when we were young, our boys derived great benefit from a small Social Library which



we joined at Farmington Falls, although at the distance, often miles, I attended the meetings every month to return my book ; conforming strictly to the regulations by returning all books every four weeks. On one occasion being pressed with work in the month of June, after hurrying off my work I took an early supper, went on foot by a spotted line with a horse load of corn to Weeks Mills and thence by a road through New Sharon to Farmington Falls to exchange a book and do some errands. On my return night overtook me and a thunder cloud came up when I got within two miles of home so that could not keep the track with the horse, I therefore, before it commenced raining, coming to a large fallen tree, I crawled under it and encamped for the night ; being fatigued I slept quietly till day-light and then got home before the family were up.

We often took long jaunts on moon-light nights in the winter six or seven miles to attend singing school, taught by S. Belcher Esq., where the good old tunes of Sherburn, Majesty, Victory and other tunes were rehearsed and sung with spirit and animation, more captivating than the most splendid modern tunes or concerts. The school usually closed at nine and after a little congratulation with our associates we returned home delighted with our excursion although it might be near midnight when we got home.

### Religious Meetings.

Although there were many things that were reprehensible among the early settlers, all were poor, rum drinking was common, many were intemperate, some were vicious and quarrelsome as well as drunkards, and there was no regular preaching for some time. Still a religious element prevailed a considerable portion of the inhabitants. Several of the early settlers had a short time before, experienced religion and several who had long been esteemed for their piety.

BAPTISTS. Religious meetings were first holden on the gore at Deacon Norton's by members of the Baptist order. Several of that denomination came from







Martha's Vineyard and settled in that vicinity. Rev. Jesse Lee, a noted Methodist preacher in his tour through Maine in the fall of 1794 was advised to call and preach at the Deacon's, but finding the family sick he passed on a mile farther to Daniel Luce's in New Vineyard ; afterwards in December of the same year, Rev. Sylvanus Boardman visited the Deacon and preached the first sermon that was preached in town. The Baptist thus took precedence of all other religious denominations and as early as 1798, were organized into a church and connected with the Bowdoinham association consisting of fifteen or twenty members, and were supplied with preaching every fourth sabbath by Rev. Oliver Billings, of Fayette, for several years, and occasionally by Elder Boardman, Elder Hooper, Elder Frances and others. John Spencer settled in the corner of Anson near West's Mills, preached several years part of the time in this town, but some imputations respecting his moral character impaired his success. After eight or ten years, Elisha Robbins, a pious young man, who was much esteemed, settled in town and was licensed to preach, but died in 1809. Levi Young, Jr. took his place as a preacher being illiterate and conscious of his want of qualification, he after a short time relinquished his post.

In the fall of 1808, Elder Jason Livermore from Hallowell, spent two months in the town, during the progress of a revival which was more extensive than any revival had been. He baptised twenty or more, most of whom united with the Baptist church. Additions were also made to the other branches of the church. The Baptists then took measures to have more preaching than they had before, and employed Mr. Oliver Peabody stately for a year or two, and Elder Hooper of Paris and Elder Cain, of Clinton, preached occasionally. The number of members then, exceeded fifty.

1813-14, Elder Thomas Morrill was employed stately at a salary of Eighty dollars a year. After two years he left and went to Prospect. Elder Boardman



of New Sharon then took a fatherly over-sight of the church and preached to them occasionally as long as he lived. By the minutes of the Bowdoinham Association it appears that fifty-two were returned as members of the Baptist Church in the year eighteen hundred and nine ; part however resided in adjoining towns. About 1854, a second church was formed in the east part of the town and Starks, consisting of about twenty-five members, under the care of Rev. Datus T. Allen (since deceased) and in 1855, Rev. T. Brownson was installed over the church in the west part of the town, consisting of about thirty members. Ira Emery, Esq., and Franklin Norton of Farmington (now dead) were the deacons. Not having been able to obtain a copy of the statistics of either of these churches, the members are stated by estimates only.

Cornelius Norton, Ebenezer Norton, Benjamin Cottle, Josiah Butler, Bartlett Allen, James Davis, Alvin Smith, Rowland Luce, Tristram Norton, Abner C. Ames and Ira Emery were prominent members of the Baptist church, and most of their wives, but nearly all are dead. It is reported that the number during the last twenty years has diminished more by deaths and removals than increased by accessions.

The Baptists from the first settlement of the town to the present time have sustained a respectable standing, embracing some of the best men in town, who have manifested a commendable interest to sustain preaching and to promote the best good of the town.

**METHODISTS.** On the first of Dec. 1794, Rev. Jesse Lee a Methodist preacher, as has been stated, on his way from Sandy river to Anson, passed through the gore with an intention to preach at Deacon Norton's, was prevented by the sickness of the family and went on and preached at Daniel Luce's who then lived in New Vineyard, being the first sermon preached in that town. He planned a circle for succeeding preachers, and the next year Rev. Enoch Mudge and Rev. Elias Hull were appointed preachers the on Readfield circuit visited the new settlement on the Gore and preached





at Abner Norton's occasionally. In the course of the year Mr. Norton and his wife and one or two of his children with Daniel Collins and some others made a profession of religion, united in a society and were formed into a class. The class increased and Methodist preaching was furnished once in four weeks at Mr. Norton's or Mr. Collins' for many years. After a few years another class was formed at Esq. Boardman's, and in 1798 another at Capt. Thompson's who was licensed as a local preacher and officiated with manifest success till the infirmities of age prevented. He was a zealous advocate of the cause of religion and devoted to the church of his choice. He was esteemed for his piety while he ~~lived~~ <sup>lived</sup> and had much influence over the intemperate portion of the citizens as well as with all good men. He was a good citizen, was Town Treasurer several years, Representative in the Legislature and once a Senator for the county. He had a good wife.

In 1802, John Gower, Esq., moved into town from Farmington, was licensed as a local preacher, was successful in forming a class in the lower part of the town, and preached occasionally during many years, till he became incapable by reason of disease on the lungs.— He was a man of much firmness and decision, of a benevolent disposition, of strong mind and of strict integrity, a successful citizen highly respected by all who knew him. He was an acting Justice of the Peace, and Selectman for many years, and once a Representative in the Legislature. He closed a well spent life in 1845 aged sixty-five years. His two sons inherit many of his good traits of character; both have moved away.

A class of Methodists was formed at West's mills where the society erected a meeting house and built a small parsonage. Peter West, Jr., was for a long time identified as a prominent member and did much to sustain the cause of religion, but failed to secure the good will of all the community, had some personal difficulty with one or two and left the society and joined another church a short time before he died.





Daniel Collins, Jr. who was raised up on the Gore, became a professor of religion, joined the class and was several years a licensed preacher.

John Allen (my brother) who in his youth was the rudest boy in the family experienced religion at a camp meeting in 1824 when thirty years old, after a regular probation was admitted to the Maine Conference as a regular preacher and preached stately till 1860 is extensively known as "Camp meeting John."—He was so zealous at first that we thought he would not hold out to the end, but has exceeded our expectations.

Henry Butler experienced religion when young, was admitted to the Maine Conference, and for several years was highly esteemed as a preacher. He died young and was much lamented.

The Methodists in this town under these and other agencies, by the gracious interposition of Divine Providence acquired a predominating influence in the town and have no doubt contributed essentially to the good order and prosperity thereof. The "number in the Society in 1854 was one hundred and sixty and fifteen more on probation." Some belonged to the adjoining towns of Starks and Anson. By the last returns the number had fallen off considerably of late years. Rev. Daniel Waterhouse was the preacher in charge in 1869. Members, one hundred thirty eight, probation, four.

*Congregationalists.* About the time of the first settlement in this town, Judith Luce, a daughter of Daniel Luce went to live with Samuel Sewall in Farmington, and while residing with that excellent family she experienced religion, united with the church and afterwards married John Trask, a brother of Mrs. Sewall, and removed to her father's in this town. Jonathan Bunker a young man living at that time near Mr. Sewall's, experienced religion under the teachings of Mr. Sewall and Rev. Jonathan Sewall as did Mr. Trask, they embraced fully the creed of their patrons, and ever afterwards manifested a child-like regard for these good men. Mr. Bunker married in 1797, and moved into this town. These three persons were the



germ of the Congregational church in this town. Under the influence of his daughter, Trask and her husband, Mr. Luce and two or three sons having experienced religion were induced to join this church. William Allen, Thomas Flint, Samuel Mason, William Remick and Rufus Viles united and on the twenty-first of January 1802, were organized into a church (with some female members) and Rev. Samuel Sewall as a missionary was at first appointed to take the special charge of the church. Both the Rev. Jonathan Sewall and the Rev. Samuel Sewall always treated Mr. Trask and his wife and Mr. Bunker as their children, often visiting them and frequently preached at their houses as long as they lived in town.

Rev. Jotham Sewall in his diary states that he preached two hundred and ten sermons in this town during his ministry. Some of the original members moved away, several have died. Some additions were made from time to time. Cornelius Norton, Jr., Esq., Jacob Hayes, Zebulon Allen, Sylvanus Allen were prominent members, but are all dead. Pelalialh Shorey, also, who is living.

This Church has not been able to sustain preaching for any length of time statedly, Rev. Alden Boynton was once settled over them for a year or two, also Rev. Thomas Smith, Rev. Josiah Tucker, was employed one or two years a part of the time and the Rev. Mr. Burnham has recently spent part of his time with them. The number of members has seldom exceeded twenty, including females. The influence of this church has always had a good effect on society. Several were among the foremost in every good work in town.

Harrison Allen, by unwearied efforts obtained a Collegate and Ministerial education, was ad-





mitted to the church in Farmington, and died at his post in Mississippi, as a Missionary to the Choctaws in 1831.

Three of Jacob Hayes's sons graduated with honor, at Bowdoin College. Stephen, the eldest is a Congregational preacher in Massachusetts ; one was drowned in Lake Ontario ; all were talented and highly esteemed.

Thus notwithstanding that many obstacles and unfavorable circumstances attended the early settlers, their children were placed under the influence of religious instruction in early life and generally imbibed religious principles and a high regard for religious institutions, and ministers of the gospel of all denominations, who visited the place, often going on foot six miles to the place of religious meetings on the sabbath, and in the order of Providence, generally acquired habits of morality and good order, many of whom by Divine Grace have been rescued from the dominion of vice and come forward, useful and worthy members of the church and State.

Boys innured to toil and hardship while young, came on the stage prepared to emerge from degrading poverty and ignorance, to surmount all difficulties and to take a rank in society creditable to themselves and to their town, and to act well their part in life, and to transmit a good name to the succeeding generation.

This town has furnished its full proportion of Senators and Representatives to the Legislature of the State ; with a full quota of Militia Officers up to a Brigadier General ; and when the town belonged to the County of Somerset from





1809 to 1838, it was remarked that this town furnished less business for the courts than any other town in the county of equal population and that her Jurors were distinguished for their intelligence and discretion. Her Representatives and Town Officers have with few exceptions been professedly pious men and members of the different branches of the church in good and regular standing.

By examining the statistics and records of the town it will be seen that the town officers from the beginning were managed with the utmost frugality and economy. The town officers were always attentive to their duties and were satisfied with a small compensation for many years. The pay of the Treasurer for ten years or more was two dollars a year, and the bills of the Selectmen who were also assessors and overseers of the poor averaged from six to eight dollars each. It is presumed that no other town in the State was ever organized and managed with so small a tax as this town was for town charges during the first twenty years; and it was admitted by all who had an opportunity to know, that no town was ever served more faithfully; inasmuch that portions of the inhabitants of all the adjoining towns for these and other reasons petitioned for and obtained annexation. But during the last twenty years the town has lost a number of its most efficient residents, some by death and others by removals or being set off to other towns and the population has fallen off twenty per cent in number and the enterprise and prosperity of the town have materially declined.

#### Census and Statistics.

In	1802.	Inhabitants	170,	Ratable polls	70*
	1810,	"	552,	"	123.
	1820,	"	778,	"	164.
	1830,	"	302,	"	161†.
	1840,	"	1036,	"	181.
	1850,	"	1041,	"	190.
	1860,	"	847,	"	187.

\* Polls over 16 years at first.

† Polls over 21 years of age, in 1802. Polls over 16 years were taken.



## State Valuation and State Taxes.

In 1802,	Valuation	\$4,000.	State tax	\$24,00.
1812,	"	7,680.	"	56,00.
1821,	"	38,201.	"	100,52.
1831,	"	49,231.	"	349,68.
1841,	"	139,067.	"	414,82.
1850.	"	147,545.	"	296,99.
1860,	"	180,096.	"	283,87.

## Taxes.

1803,	Town tax	\$30.	School	\$00.	Highway	\$800.
1810,	"	80.	"	100.	"	800.
1820,	"	50.	"	100.	"	1,000.
1830,	"	200.	"	330.	"	1,500.
1840,	"	400.	"	400.	"	1,500.
1850,	"	700.	"	500.	"	1,500.
1860,	"	1,000.	"	560.	"	1,500.
1868,	"	2,000.	"	620,25	"	3,000.

## County Commissioners.

- 1839, Benjamin Allen, three years.  
 1860, Clifford B. Norton, six years.

## Senators.

- 1833, Rev. John Thompson.  
 1850, Newman T. Allen.

## Representatives.

- 1819, James Davis.  
 1822, John Gower, Esq.,  
 1824, Rev. John Thompson.  
 1828, Ezekiel Hinkley.  
 1830, James Stanley, Esq.,  
 1833, Benjamin Mantor.  
 1834, Benjamin Allen.  
 1836, Cornelius Davis.  
 1838, Francis Meader.  
 1840, Benjamin Luce.  
 1845, Truman A. Merrill.  
 1848, Clifford B. Norton.  
 1853, Hiram Mantor.  
 1860, Albert Shaw.

## Selectmen.

The following have served as Selectmen.

	Years.		Years.
1803, William Allen, Jr.,	7.	1835, George Winslow,	2.
1803, Peter West,	1.	1836, Nathan Goodrich,	7.
1803, Daniel Luce,	1.	1838, Newman T. Allen,	4.
1804, Nathaniel Willard,	1.	1840, John Gilmore,	4.





1804, Levi Greenleaf,	1. 1840, John Gower, Jr.,	3.
1805, Joseph Chesley,	1. 1842, Charles Winslow,	1.
1805, James Eveleth,	1. 1842, Datus T. Allen,	2.
1805, Thomas Johnson,	1. 1842, Francis Meader,	1.
1806, Josiah Butler,	9. 1845, Hiram Mantor,	3.
1806, Henry Smith,	2. 1845, George Gower,	5.
1806, Abrahram Johnson,	2. 1849, Albert Shaw,	4.
1808, John Gower,	14. 1850, Oren Daggett,	1.
1813, Bartlett Allen,	8. 1850, Daniel Hilton,	1.
1815, Nehemiah Howes,	2. 1853, Peter W. Willis,	1.
1816, Cornelius Norton,	7. 1853, Ira Emery, Jr.,	5.
1817, James Davis,	3. 1854, James Cutts,	2.
1820, Jabez Norton,	2. 1855, David Patterson,	4.
1820, Daniel Shaw,	2. 1859, John W. Mantor,	1.
1822, Cornelius Davis,	1. 1859, Benjamin N. Willis,	2.
1822, Ezekiel Hinkley,	4. 1859, Andrew Phelps,	1.
1823, John Thompson,	1. 1860, Oliver Stephens,	3.
1827, Benjamin Allen,	6. 1860, James Norton,	3.
1830, Ebenezer Swift,	1. 1861, James A. Snell,	2.
1832, Samuel Shaw,	2. 1861, John Willis,	4.
1832, Phineas Tolman,	1. 1865, C. M. Greenwood,	1.
1832, Clifford B. Norton,	22. 1867, Josiah Emery,	2.
1834, Obed Norton,	1. 1868, George Mantor,	1.
1835, Samuel Patterson,	2. 1868, George W. Johnson,	1.

## Town Clerks.

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	Years.		Years.
1803, William Allen, Sr.,	2.	1831, Zachariah Withee.	1.
1805, James Thompson,	3.	1834, Clifford B. Norton,	1.
1808, Josiah Butler,	4.	1835, Asaph Boyden,	2.
1809, Silas Daggett.	1.	1837, Francis Caldwell,	2.
1810, Bartlett Allen.	8.	1839, Charles Norton,	2.
1811, Samuel Mason,	1.	1841, John West,	2.
1812, James Davis,	7.	1843, Peter West Butler,	26.
1827, Newman T. Allen,	5.		

## Town Treasurers.

	Years.		Years.
1803, James Thompson,	1.	1838, William Conforth,	2.
1804, Peter West,	1.	1842, Nathan Goodrich,	1.
1805, John Thompson,	3.	1843, Jacob Hayes,	1.
1809, Silas Daggett,	1.	1844, Benjamin Allen,	7.
1810, James Winslow,	3.	1851, Newman T. Allen,	1.
1812, Sylvanus Allen,	2.	1853, Albert Shaw,	1.
1816, Cornelius Davis,	7.	1854, Elijah Manter,	1.
1820, William Remick,	1.	1855, Andrew Tibbetts,	1.
1821, James Stauley,	8.	1856, Nelson C. Luce,	6.
1832, Ira Emery,	2.	1859, James Elliott,	1.
1834, Peter W. Willis,	1.	1863, Mark Emery,	6.
1835, George Hobbs,	3.		

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## Qualification of Town Officers.

Our early settlers had not the advantages of an early education which their children now enjoy and were not skillful accountants, it is therefore not so strange that mistakes were sometimes made. At the annual meeting in 1804, Capt. West having served as Selectman the preceeding year presented an account for *finger boards* as he called them, the account was not allowed as the same were not well made and he was dropped from the list of Selectmen for re-election : but the town was unwilling to offend him as he paid a higher tax than any other one in town, and to gratify him he was chosen Town Treasurer ; on being notified, he replied, "I thank you gentlemen, I'll accept," and the first claim that I pay will be Peter West's, for "finger boards."

Capt. Thompson having served three years as Town Treasurer as successor to Capt. West, declined a re-election the fourth year, and as a reason said "he could not afford, it" the office run him in debt every year."—"He paid out more than he received." He was requested to present his account and it should be allowed : he replied that he "kept no account," "that he had made no account of debt or credit during the three years."—Being regarded as an honest patriotic man the town heard his verbal statement and allowed him a small sum (with which he was satisfied) and chose a man who had been a sea captain in his stead and directed him to keep an account of his doings. The next year the captain brought in his account entered in a Treasury Book and declined a re-election because his book would not tell the truth, that he had charged all the bills paid, and entered all the orders he had drawn on collectors to pay bills with : that he had done all the business by orders and bills, had not received or paid a dollar in money on the town's account, but his book shew a considerable balance due to him which he knew was not the case.

These are specimens of some the early doings in the Treasury Department of the town.





## Survey of the Lands.

Settlers had taken possession of the lands without any regular survey. In September 1802 a survey of their lots was made by Lemuel Perham under the inspection of Isaac Pillsbury, of Hallowell, the Proprietor's Agent, and Samuel Prescott and Frances Mayhew of New Sharon were agreed upon as chairmen to run out a lot for each settler agreeable to a resolve of the General Court.

The survey was commenced at Thompson's corner and proceeded south on a range line and the lots were numbered and marked on that line from one to nine. They then returned to the place of beginning and proceeded west, laid out two lots on the rear of the second range and then extended north and then south from Hinkley's corner till twenty-four lots were surveyed.

On the third day I took my first lesson in surveying with the surveyor. We commenced at a small beach tree a few rods south of where George Hobbs house stands and made and marked corners for three lots, No. 25, 26 and 27, run west thirteen rods and marked the north-east corner of my lot No. 28, ran to the pond marked corners of No. 29 and 30, then run across No. 25 and round No. 31 and 26 back to the place of beginning so accurately as to hit the corner tree ; demonstrating clearly to my mind his skill and practical use of the compass and the careful measurement made by the chairmen. He thus proceeded from day to day till he laid out a lot for each settler numbering from one to sixty four.

Samuel Crompton's lot was No. 47 by New Sharon line, a good lot on which he made a good farm and raised up his family. When he commenced working on it in 1794, he had a little money sufficient to purchase his provisions for a year and until he raised corn on his burnt land and had money to pay for some hired help. He was an honest, blunt Englishman, was industrious and prudent as long as he lived, a man of integrity, punctual to all of his engagements and accumulated property. One of his sons, George, became a





man of business and was a Deputy Sheriff several years.

In 1810, Capt. Perham completed the survey of the unsettled lots, numbered them by the alphabet A. to S, nineteen lots.

In 1802, Cornelius Norton, Jr., surveyed and spotted the Lowell strip.

### Sketches of Early Settlers.

Thomas Johnson was a soldier of the Revolution and afterwards a sailor. He came from Martha's Vineyard to Sandy river in 1793, where he made some stop, explored the land on the Patent and commenced clearing, in 1794 moved on lots No. 13, took up lots No. 39 and 40 adjoining, and No. 37 a mile distant for his sons. He had a large family and was poor but managed to make a living. He was unable to do much labor on account of his age and did not accumulate much property; sold out in 1809 to Ichabod Johnson who came from Vermont and moved to Farmington, and was placed on the pension list under the act of 1818, and died soon after. His wife was a daughter of Timothy Smith of the Vineyard, possessed of good talents which she communicated to her sons. Mr. Johnson was a peaceable, still man. He had seven sons who all settled in Farmington, where by their mothers wit and political tact and perseverance, they for many years obtained a greater influence than any other family in town and were promoted to offices of trust and profit. Timothy, the second son became a worthy preacher of the gospel of the Freewill Baptist order, was a successful trader and was Post-master many years. Thomas was a colonel of the militia; Abraham was a selectman and captain in Industry; Joseph was a Deputy Sheriff, then trader, Representative, Counsellor and Sheriff. A grandson has filled the most important offices under the Governor, at Augusta, Speaker of the House of Representatives and Senator and Mayor of that city, namely, William T. Johnson, son of William T. Johnson who, settled in Madison at first, afterwards in Farmington.

Nathaniel Willard and sons settled on lots No. 3,



14 and 15 at Thompson's corner, they came from Dunstable N. H. He was a brick layer, was called an honest man but old and not energetic, he was Selectmen in 1805 and died the next year. His two sons Samuel and Levi who settled in town were not successful. Levi embarrassed himself by military officers, removed to New Portland where he died, and Samuel became chargeable to the town.

Zoe Withee was a Revolutionary soldier and acquired habits in the war, unfavorable to prosperity, came from Londonderry in N. H. on lot No. 38, Withee's corner. He experienced religion under the influence of Capt. Thompson joined the Methodist class reformed his habits and ever after sustained a good reputation; with the assistance of an industrious family he made a good living and cleared up a good farm, obtained a pension under the act of 1818. One of his sons has been a trader and a selectman in town, and Town Clerk two years.

Archelaus Luce settled first on lot No. 18, on Bannock Hill sold his possession to Jonathan Knowlton, Jr. in 1798 and moved to lot No. 27, Davis's corner. In 1808 he sold to James Davis and moved away. He came from the Vineyard, was a hard working man, honest in his dealings, but of a roving turn and did not accumulate property to pay for land.

Knowlton being unable to pay for his land sold his possession to D. Stoyells of Farmington who obtained a title to it and sold to Jacob Hayes, who came from Berwick in 1809, and soon after was married and lived on the lot several years, then swapped with John Patterson and moved to the south side of the hill where he made a good farm; was prosperous, made money by keeping sheep of an improved breed, raised up an excellent family, gave three sons a College education, was very industrious and prudent and esteemed as one of the best citizens of the town; he died in 1853, leaving a good estate to his descendants.

John Patterson came from Damariscotta first to Farmington, thence to lot No. 32, in 1806 which he sold to Sylvanus Allen, who sold to his son Freeman, who sold





to Withee and Withee to Simeon Williams. Patter-son moved to the adjoining lot which he sold to Mr. Hayes by exchange. He was not prosperous. He had several sons and daughters who came forward with a good reputation and accumulated good estates and sustained themselves by the influence of a good mother who was esteemed for her piety.

Capt. William Allen, was from Martha's Vineyard, and came first to Sandy river settlement in 1792, and thence to this town in 1798. He had been a clothier, trader and sailor; was unsuccessful, came to this place poor with a large family, did not own so much as a cow, had to hire one and was embarrassed with debts. He made profession of religion soon after he came here, and by the aid of Divine grace and the blessing of God acquired a good reputation and by hard labor with the aid of a prudent good wife obtained a comfortable support for his family. After the boys, six in number were able to earn their living, his four daughters were industrious and all were brought up, and the sons were able to render him all necessary assistance in old age. Although he never acquired much property, he indulged a good hope of an inheritance in the world to come. His wife died in 1831 aged 75 years; she was an excellent mother. He died in 1842, aged almost 87 years. The family have all removed from the town; three of the sons, Truman, Harrison and James are dead, also, all his daughters, Love Gower, Jane Robinson, Deborah Merrill and Clementina Cook. The sons obtained title to the land he occupied lots No. 30 and 44, also lots No. 26 and 28, from the Proprietors. The two older sons were often Selectmen, and he and one son several times Town Clerk. The oldest son removed to Norridgewock where he has sustained various offices of trust and profit and was twelve years Clerk of the Courts.

Francis Meader settled on lot No. 24, which passed into the hands of his son-in-law James Eveleth, then to to Hinkley and Trafton, and is now owned by Rackleff. Mr. Meader was from Nantucket, a carpenter, a Revolutionary soldier and a pensioner when he died



aged 87 years, at \$96, a year, was a quiet peaceable man, who had no enemies, was always rather poor, and left no estate.

William Ladd came from Mt. Vernon in 1798, settled first on the Meade<sup>y</sup> lot No. 22, then on lot No. 21.— His habits were bad, was always poor and moved away.

Alvin Howes came from Farmington, formerly from Harwick and settled on lots No. 45, was a successful farmer, did not sell or change his residence till he died 1850, leaving a decent property to his children, he was an honest, moderate man of strict integrity.

Atkins Ellis came from Harwick and settled in lot No. 35, in 1800. He had been a Revolutionary soldier, was extremely poor and his large family often suffered for bread, was never able to pay for land, gave up his possession, moved to lot L. and then to Ripley, was a pensioner under the Act of 1818, at \$96, a year, and died in old age.

Joshua Pike, an honest good citizen came from Salisbury and settled in the Badger lot No. 51, where he lived to old age, and then went to live with a daughter where he died.

Elisha Luce settled on lot No. 33 in 1800, sold to Jonathan Goodridge who came from Lewiston in 1801. Mr. Goodrich was a blacksmith, made a good living had but one son, Nathan, who has acquired a good estate, and is esteemed as one of the best of citizens, is a Methodist, has often been a Selectman, and has served a regular course of militia officers up to Brigadier General; his father was the first Postmaster in town had several daughters esteemed for good habits, and all married well.

Samuel Stevens, a cooper, took possession first of lot No. 12, and then lot R, was not able to pay for land and moved away; he was a soldier and become a Revolutionary pensioner before he died; he was intemperate.

Paul Bradbury and two sons came from New Hampshire and settled first on lot No. 3, east side of Bannock hill, and then on No. 54, by Starks line; they were moderate kind men and rather poor.





Jacob Mathews, a rude sort of a man came from Mt. Vernon and settled on lot No. 9, in 1802, married a daughter of Zoe Withee, and after a few years sold to Moses Totman who came from New Sharon. Mr. Totman was worth some property, was a shoe-maker, improved his farm and gained property and brought up his family well; his oldest son, Phineas, moved to Piscataquis county where he has a good reputation, has been a senator for that county, and is much respected.

This sketch may serve as a specimen of the early settlers on the Patent.

The lots numbered 41, 42, 48, 49, 50, 51, 59, 61, 62, 63, 64, 67, 68, part of 70 and part of H. I. M. P. and R. containing 1500 acres were set off and annexed to New Sharon in 1852, being a very valuable part of the town.

The settlers on the Lowell strip were mostly from Martha's Vineyard, were possessed of some estate, ranked higher in the valuation list than the inhabitants and were generally of a higher grade in society. James Stanley, from Berwick, William Remick and Samuel Marston, from Tamworth, N. H., and Daniel Shaw, John Remick and sons, and some other from N. H. settled on the strip, proved to be valuable citizens, who added much to the reputation of the town.

Gilman Hilton, a blacksmith and John Huston, settled on the strip, were not so respectable, and their families became chargeable to the town; rum ruined them.

Deacon Cottle, an early settler was a man of strict integrity and much esteemed; he was a shoe maker and made an honest good living; he had no sons, but a number of daughters, who were well brought up and married well.

Jabez Norton, who settled on the strip in 1795, was esteemed a good man, was quite aged and gave up the care of business to his son Jabez Norton, Jr., They, as well as Deacon Cottle were from the Vineyard. Mr. Norton, Jr., was one of the best of men, a pious Methodist, mild and conciliatory in his manners, conscientious in the discharge of his duty, a friend and admirer of all good men. He made a good farm and supported his father and mother on it in their old age, was industrious and prudent, was persuaded to take a military commission and was promoted to be a captain,





but did not partake or incline to the vicious habit so common with military officers, of treating himself as well as his men, with intoxicating liquor at military trainings. At an election of field officers, at Starling's tavern in Farmington, Capt. Norton was an elector and while the others were anxiously discussing not only the qualifications of the candidates, but the quality also, of Starling's liquor, with some noise and tumult. He took no part with them, but took a seat in a remote corner of the room and struck a Methodist tune in a melodious voice and sung that beautiful hymn as follows :

Jesus, at thy command,  
 I launch into the deep  
 And leave my native land,  
 Where sin lulls all asleep.  
 For this I would the world resign,  
 And sail to Heaven with thee and thine.  
 Thou art my pilot wise,  
 My compass is thy word,  
 My soul each storm defies,  
 While I have such a Lord :  
 I trust thy faithfulness and power,  
 To save me in the trying hour.  
 Though rocks and quicksands deep,  
 Through all my passage lie,  
 Yet Christ will safely keep  
 And guide me with his eye :  
 My anchor, hope shall firm abide,  
 And every boisterous storm out-ride.  
 With faith I see, &c., to the end of the Hymn.

The noise in the bar-room immediately subsided, and all listened attentively to the singing, and he was requested to repeat it, showing conclusively the influence of music by a pious man, when surrounded with the most unfavorable circumstances to quiet a tumult. The singing had a good effect, and the election came off peaceably and satisfactorily.

The settlers on the Gore and on that part of New Vineyard which has been annexed to Industry, as has been stated, were nearly all from Martha's Vineyard, and paid for their land before they went upon it, and had some funds to start with and were respected for their good moral character and christian virtues.

Many of them were sailors, and were not farmers



when they came to Maine, but the most of them succeeded in making a good living, and although subject to much inconvenience for want of roads at first, were generally prosperous. They soon found it to be more profitable to make pork for market than to carry their corn forty miles to market. Some years there was a competition among them in raising hogs and making pork. Their hogs averaged 400 to 500 pounds.

After their new farms were subdued and seeded down to grass, they turned their attention to raising neat stock and horses, and more recently to raising sheep for which their stony hills are well adapted, and some have grown rich.

More than half the early settlers who came into the town prior to 1810, were migratory and continually moved away, some of whom were the most influential and worthy inhabitants. James Stanley moved to Farmington, James Davis to Starks, Samuel Marston to New Sharon, James Thompson to western New York, Bartlett Allen to Holmes' Hole, Sylvanus Allen to Nantucket, William Remick to Dover, Daniel Shaw to Bangor, Jabez Norton to Aroostook, Thomas Johnson to Farmington, all of whom have been town officers, and also Josiah Butler and Charles Norton, to Norridgewock. The two first named, Stanley and Davis, had also been Representatives, and many others who were in good standing, and others of less note and many who were poor or worthless.

Henry Smith moved to Hallowell, Asa Conant lived in town two years and moved to Temple, William B. Davis to Dover, Jacob Mathews to St. Albans, Humphrey Clark to Alfred, John Coffin to Shapleigh, Jonathan and Eben Williamson to Starks, James Atkinson to Mercer, Jonathan Bunker to west New York, also John Thompson 2d, Tristram Daggett to Parkman, Mathew Benson to Madison. Daniel Beedy to Phillips, Peter Beedy to Kingsbury, Archelaus Luce to George's river, Atkins Ellis to Ripley, John Patterson to Madison, Levi Willard to





New Portland, Samuel Look to Georgetown, Nathaniel Chapman to Kingfield, &c., John Goodridge, all the Moody's, William Ladd, and others of the poorer class moved away after living in town a few years, such as Samuel Longley, Elisha Chesley, Aaron Whitney, Robert Luce. More than one hundred families who once had a residence in the town moved away, the most of whom are dead. Abraham Page came from Farmington, and settled first at the head of the pond two years, then on lot No. 29, three years, then near Rufas Allen's in Farmington two years, and at last on one acre of land on lot No. 27, near Davis' corner, where he died. He built a small log house in which he lived at each of these places and always depended on working out to support himself and family, was a stout active man to work for others but had no courage to work for himself he said because he was such a poor paymaster. His habits were temperate, accomplished a great amount of hard work, lived to an old age, and was always poor, was of a peaceable disposition, and might have accumulated a good estate by a proper application of his energies. No man in the country could use an axe or a scythe with better effect than he could and always received the highest wages. He often cut down an acre of trees in a day. He had no skill to manage business or to plan or execute work, but by the day. Several others made two or three removals before leaving the town.

The settlement of the town was commenced under very unfavorable circumstances on account of the general poverty of all and want of intelligence and demoralized habits of many, but by the interposition of Divine Providence, remarkable success attained the ef



forts of a pious few, and of those who were well disposed so that when the town had been incorporated twelve years there were more professedly pious persons in town in proportion to the number of inhabitants than there were in the adjoining towns, settled under more favorable circumstances and the reputation of the town for industry, sobriety, prosperity and good management, was worthy of commendation. The town affairs were managed with unusual fidelity, and town-meetings were conducted in an orderly and correct manner, and attracted the attention of the other towns and induced many worthy citizens to settle in the town, and settlers on portions of all the adjoining towns sought and obtained annexation by six separate acts of the Legislature, until within twenty years past, when the tide of prosperity turned. The establishing of the town of Farmington as the shire town has induced some of the most enterprising men of the place to remove to that flourishing town, some have gone to other places of business. Young men have gone to the far west in pursuit of wealth, and some to California for gold; two portions of the territory have been set off and annexed to adjoining towns, and the last census and valuation shows quite a diminution of persons and estates: and the accessions and remaining population are not so energetic and prosperous as before these depletions and the efforts of the present inhabitants seem to be in some measure paralyzed.

It is hoped however, that as "there is a tide in the affairs of men" that the tide of emigration may ere long turn and that business may revive and prosperity be revived, and that the former good name, fame and reputation will be restored.

The early settlers of the town have all passed off the stage and the present actors are strangers of another generation or of a third generation, who know nothing of the privation and hardships of their ancestors who penetrated the wilderness and subdued the farms and prepared for the comforts they enjoy. May succeeding generations act well their part, be industrious, temperate and prudent, make higher and higher attainments in everything that enables them in life,



and prepares them for endless felicity in the life to come.

W. ALLEN.

## APPENDIX.

### *A List of the Voters in Industry in 1803.*

Allen, William,	Marshall, John
Allen, Jr. William,	Moody, Joseph
Allen, Bartlett	Moody, Ephraim
Bradbury, Paul	Mathew, Jacob
Brown, Joseph	Norton, Jabez
Brown, Samuel	Norton, Jr., Jabez
Bunker, Jonathan	Norton, Sprowel
Burgess, Benjamin	Page, Abraham
Conant, Asa.	Pike, Joshua
Collins, Lemuel	Robbins, Ammuel
Collins, Jr. Lemuel	Robbins, Jr., Ammyel
Chapman, Nathaniel	Robbins, Elijah
Cottle, Benjamin	Stevens, Ebenezer
Crompton, Samuel	Stevens, John
Coffin, John	Stevens, Samuel
Daggett, Tristram	Thompson, John
Daggett, Peter	Thompson, James
Ellis, Athens	Thompson, 2d, John
Eveleth, James	Williamson, Jonathan
Greenleaf, Levi	Williamson, Ebenezer
Howes, Alvan	Webber, John
Johnson, Thomas	Winslow, James
Hosten, John	Withee, Zoe
Johnson, James	Willard, Nathaniel
Johuson, Abraham	Willard, Samuel
Kuowlton, Jonathan	Willard, Levi
Ladd, William	Witham, Peter
Luce, Daniel	West, Jr. Peter
Luce, Jr., Daniel	West, Peter
Luce, Rowland	Jewett, Benjamin
Luce, Truman	

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### *List of Voters in 1855.*

Allen, Benjamin	Goodridge, Nathan	Norton, William
Allen, Samuel B.	Goodridge, Charles	Norton, Hiram
Allen, Charles A.	Goodwin, Alonzo	Norton, Samuel H.
Allen, Datus T.	Hatch, David	Norton, Horatio G.
Allen, Ephriam R.	Howes, John	Norton, Clifford B.
Allen, Albert	Hayes, Charles	Oliver, James
Ayers, Stephen	Higgins, Barna A.	Oliver, Thomas M.
Bradbury, John S.	Higgins, John C.	Patterson, David
Bradbury, Alfred	Hilton, Daniel	Patterson, Wesley T.
Bradbury, Moses	Howes, Lee	Pinkham, Cortes
Boyden, Asaph	Johnson, Henry	Perkins, James W.
Butler, Peter W.	Johnson, George W.	Palmer, Reuel





Bryant, James	Johnson, Nathan S.	Palmer, Daniel B.
Bryant, Gilman	Johnson, William F.	Rackliff, Henry B.
Bryant, Wm. M.	Johnson, Zebediah	Rackliff, J. Sumner
Bearee, Silas	Jefferies, George	Rackliff, Samuel
Brown, John	Knowles, Ezekiel	Rogers, Thomas
Combs, Francis	Kennedy, Andrew	Rogers, Thomas S.
Collins, Joseph	Luce, Rowland	Shorey, Peletiah
Collins, Jr., Joseph	Luce, Moses M.	Snell, James A.
Collins, Obed N.	Luce, Elisha	Swift, Ebenezer
Conforth, Bateman	Luce, George W.	Swift, Jr., Ebenezer
Conforth, William	Luce, Winthrop	Storer, Philip
Conforth, Jr., Wm.	Luce, Luther	Storer, Peter M.
Conforth, Warren	Luce, Jr., Luther	Spinney, John
Caswell, Salmon	Luce, David	Shaw, Samuel
Davis, Cornelius	Luce, Newall	Shaw, Albert
Doyen, Abbott	Luce, Nelson C.	Smith, Ebenezer
Daggett, Isaac	Luce, Jessie	Smith, Elijah B.
Daggett, Francis	Luce, William H.	Stevens, James
Daggett, 2d, Samuel	Luce, Jr., Wm. H.	Stevens, Oliver
Daggett, John J.	Luce, 2d., Wm. H.	Tolman, Moses
Daggett, Wm. R.	Luce, Warren	Tolman, John
Dutton, Josiah	Luce, Joseph	Tolman, William
Durrill, Hiram D.	Look, Davis	Tolman, Aaron
Emery, Ira	Leaver, Joseph	True, J. Bartlett
Emery, Jr, Ira	Leaver, John	Tibbetts, Andrew
Edwards, Brice S.	Lewis, William	Tibbetts, Benjamin
Edgecomb, James	Lewis, William G.	Taylor, Daniel H.
Eveleth, Benj. G.	Lowe, Daniel C.	Viles, Leonard
Eveleth, Joseph	Lowe, Herbert	Viles, John H.
Eveleth, Jr. Joseph	McLaughlin Richard	Viles, Joseph B.
Elliott, James	Miller, George	Viles, Dennes H.
Frost, John	Mosher, John	Weeks, Philander
Fogg, Asa	Mantor, John W.	Webster, Isaac
Folsom, Daniel	Mantor, Elijah	Whittien, Issachar
Folsom, Jr., Daniel	Mantor, Henry	Whittien, James
Folsom, William Q.	Mantor, George	Willis, Peter W.
Frederic, John W.	Mantor, Hiram	Willis, Benjamin H.
Fassett, Richard	Mantor, Warren	Willis, Warren N.
Fish, Elisha	Mantor, James	Watson, Simeon
Gardiner, Renel	Mantor, Asa M.	Woodstock, Alexander
Goodwin, John H.	Mantor, John P.	Welch, William
Greenwood, Thaddens	Miller Jacob	Welch, Phillip
Greenwood, Hannibal	Merry, David	Withee, Zachariah
Gray, Obed	Norton, Obed	Withee, Daniel
George, Albert S.	Norton, Obed W.	Withee, William
Gilmore, James	Norton, Trestran	Willard, Haskall
Gilmore, David	Norton, Benj. W.	Whitney, Charles
Gennings, Rufus	Norton, James	Yeaton, James S.
(181)		Yeaton, Jonathan

(Given under our hands, August 9, 1855.  
David Patterson, Albert Shaw, Selectmen.

Signed, C. B. Norton,

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